





## WHAT A MAN WHO SAW GOEBEL FALL THINKS OF THE TRAGEDY.

An After View of the Recent Disturbance in Kentucky.

The assassination of William Goebel, Democratic Governor of Kentucky, is one of the most extraordinary crimes in American house grounds, Railroad Commissioner Mequestions involved in this partisan struggle, up the long brick walk to the Capital steps in Kentucky are sure to have a lacting sig-imountaineers that Gothel was coming.

Pending the indictment of probably a suspected of complicity in the assassination, a study of the physical and accredited circumstances of the dastardly shooting cannot be devoid of interest to all classes of readers Every reader of The Republic probably knows the details of the contests between William Goebel and J. C. W. Beckham, Democrats, and W. S. Taylor and John Marshall, Republicans, for the governorshin and lieutenant governorship of state of affairs on January 24, it is only necessary to say that on that date it lecame evident to Taylor, the de facto Goverpor, that the Democratic Legislature was determined to unseat him and his Liguisnant, as well as a number of the Republican claimants for the Senate and House of Representatives. It was a despirate situation for the Republicans, but pobody except the few leaders who have been in the plot seem to have known anything about the desperate plan of retaliation even then being concocted.

On the morning of January 25, at 9 o'clock, a special train of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad pulled into Frankfort and stopped in the middle of Broadway, or as it is called, Railroad street, immediately in front of Capitol Square. The train was made up of fourteen day-coaches, and every car was loaded with mountaineers. You remember the cadets of Gascony in "Cyrone de Bergerae"." I can think of no type of American manhood that comes neater in physical resemblance to those Gascons Tall, lank, hungry-looking, reckless and awkward-some without overconts, many with rabbit-fur caps and most of them without a dollar-but every man of them with at least two weapons. They all had rifles and at least one revolver. I saw one with four Coh 45-caliber pistols and a belt full of cartridges strapped about his waist while he carried upon his shoulder an oldfashioned needle-gun, with which, he boasted, he could "knock the eye outen a

Ex-Secretary of State Finley, Republican took charge of this outlandish regiment the moment it arrived. As if by prearrange ment it marched from the railroad trate through the iron gates of the Capitol grounds and massed upon the steps of the legislative building, where Senators are Representatives were already assembling Preparations had already been made for feeding the mountain Gascons, for within fifteen minutes after they fuvaded to square, hot coffee, sandwiches, tin cups and all the appurtenances of a regimental mass were ready and in the hands of the visitors. News of the warlike demonstration at the Capitol was quickly carried to Goebel in his rooms at the Capitol Hotel, three blocks eway. There was not a Democrat amongst his immediate advisers who did not blanch with fear for the safety of their worshiped They knew the mountaineers to be sassing. big sted adherents of Taylor; knew them to be sharpshooters without regard for human life and without compunction in the matter of slaving a foe from ambush.

"You must not go through that crowalone!" said Goebel's friends.

"I will go about my business as usual," replied he. "If they are determined to get me they will shoot me from ambush, and no guard can prevent that. But I will go amonest them as though they were lawabiding citizens. Perhaps they are. We don't know; let's give them the benefit of

the doubt." And William Goebel laughed as he put his overcoat and started for the Statehous slone. Colonel Jack Chinn met him at th hotel exit and insisted upon accompanying standing with weapons ready as for a bat-Chord accosted him and they walked to-

"There he is-there he is!" whispered one mountaineer to another, and as he passed the word was passed among the waiting

taineers packed on and about the State steps as we approached," said Mr. McChord dozen men of high and low degree, who are in telling me what he knew of Goebel's assassination. "As Goebel approached the edge of this solid mass of walting men, word of his coming seemed to have reached them. For they wheeled towards him, and, as if by magic, a narrow lane, just wide enough for one man to pass, was formed so as to permit him to reach the entrance. It struck me in an instant that it might be fatal for Goebel to walk through that havrow passage between men who might stab him in an instant and escape, so I caught this State. In order to recall the tence him by the shoulder and said, 'Let's reign our way through from the side.' Gosbell acceded, and as he walked in front of me, I kept my hand on his should r till we had justled through the crowd and reached the vestibule of the Statehouse. reached the Senate chamber, I asked him if he had noticed that have made so suddenly through the crowd of mountaineers, 'Yes, I noticed it,' he said, 'and you notice that I didn't walk through it? He laughesi the matter off, and we said no more about That was William Goebel's first experi-

ence with the rountaineers, and it we curred on the same norming upon which they arrived. It can be said without prejudice presence in Frankfort the mountaineers of it devoted to the government's offices, They were permitted to stack their rifles. It will be understood that the Statehouse in the office of the Commissioner of Aerior answered evaslyely that they "had come was a free excursion, and, as we was all invited, we jest tho't we'd run down in sec remained said to me: "They know'd we was comin', but I guess we come too "they." but it soon became known that ex-Governor Bradley, ex-Secretary of State Finley and Adjutant General Collier had been directly instrumental in dismissing the 300 men, who left almost as suddenly as they came. Who is responsible for the coming of the mountaineers, or who permitted or encouraged that rear guard of

not develop until the trial of Goebel's as-In spite of the protestations of Percy Haley, Eph Lillard, Jack Chinn, South Trimble, Crey Woodson and other friends, lendance in the Senate. On Friday, Seturday and Monday following the advent of the mountaineers he walked alone and unormed to the Statehouse, elbowed his way through groups of impassive but attentive mountsineers, and took his place in the Senate, cool, unruffled and smiling. But Eph Lillard and Jack Chinn had stolen a march on their chief. The former made a back lower down and near the spinal colpractice of preceding Goebel, walking in advance about a hundred yards, while Chinn followed the marked man to protect

any attempt upon Goebel's life would be

369 to remain, is not known now and may

on assassins shot from the back as he the. As he neared the gate to the States chamber. Each morning that Lattard en- when he heard the shots. Before Guebel tered the dark half he found mountaineers bad been carried out of the Statehous the doors on guard until Gode-i had passed I tried to enter the Executive building withhis distant guards come through the yord

> tal Hotel to attend a session of the Senate called for that bear. The order basis crime. But I was stopped at the west door ness of the morning was the Mechanil unitextortion rultroad bill, set for bulk a measare of which Goobel was the a knowledged | half-opened door I saw six or seven mounchampion and an act which is supposed talneers with rifles in their hands, guarding to have created more entity against him the entrance. This struck me as strange even that the Goeled election law. As I because I knew that for two or three days usurd Eph Lillard preceded Goebel, walking the rifles of the victors had been checked 100 yards in advance. Colonel Jack China. on this particular morning, caught up with I slotter of Agriculture, I went around to the Goodel as he left the hotel and walked with least door of the building and was met there him to the Statehouse. Both Lillard and by a similarly armed and excited sentinel China noticed as they walked into the Canited Square that not a mountaineer was back. Lillard, walking ahead, entered the Statehouse vestibule only to find its dark coring from side to side, he heard a sudden shot, then smother and another till five had detonated. He lerked out his pistol and ran out, hoping to come to Goebel's aid in time to fight his assollant. "The shooting stopped before I could get

to him," sold Mr. Litlard, describing the scretic, "and he seen as I saw poor Gorbel on the ground, with Jack Chinn standing and fully confirmed by withesees of all guard over him without firing a shut, I reand fully confirmed by withesses of all stand that he had been shot from am-factions that during the first day of their bash. I ran to him said then some police-"tan the town," and particularly that part, men and others came, and we carried him

in the office of the temminations; or described the standing upon the crown or a culture; they were given free access to the center of the Capitol grounds. Fifty feet center of the Capitol grounds. Fifty feet or legislative building, faces the south lounced upon the chairs of Governor Tay. To the right, detached from the legislative lot's antercom with familiar case. I naked building, but also facing the south, is th a score of them why they had come to Executive building, in which are the Gov-Frankfort, but they either retused to tell ernor's offices and those of the Secretary of State and other State officials. The of to see the Guynor." One wargish young these of the Governor and the Secretary of man from Better County said: "On, they State are on the first floor, all facing the south, and, therefore, in direct view of the and where Gordel fell. In order to give Willie." The mountaineers affectionately my personal impressions of the assassinaspeak of Taylor as "Willie" A con-cultation was held in Governor Tay. lor's office that afterneon, and, as a 1 was approaching the front gate of the result, about 50 mount theory left Capitel, coming along Frondway, or Rull-Frankfort on the evening of the day of their found street, and about as far from the front arrival. The next day one of the las who short of the Stateheuse as is the southeast corner of Thirteenth and Olive streets from the minute door of the Exposition building. strong, so they sent most of us hask." Goebel fell about twenty-five yards from He would not tell whom he meant by the deer, and I saw him sink to the ground at the same moment the first shot was fired, I did not know who had been hit at first, but conjectured that a duel with pistols was being fought and that one of the participants had failen. I saw no fire ner smoke, but ran into the yard, arriving about the same moment with a score of Senators and Representatives, who came rushing forth to learn the origin and the result of the firing. As we stood there watching his friends carry the wounded man away, Governor Taylor came to the window of his office and looked at the scene for a moment. He did not seem to be ex-Goebel would not desist from his daily at. I cited, but had his hands in his pockets, and from the interested, but calm, expression of his face I think he did not know at the time who had been shot. A moment later the inside shutters of his windows were closed, and I saw him no more that day for reasons that will appear

Goebel was struck near the right nipple, the ball emerging from the left side of his umn. The course of the bullet was shown afterwards to have been downward and from his right side to his left, and therehim in the rear. It was anticipated that fore directly in line with the window of the Executive building. That the ball did him, but Goebel would not permit the loyal made in the dark vestibule of the legis- not come from the legislative building is

ascended the steps toward the Senate front door in which Lillard was standing in the sholowy places as thick as higher pard the mespaper men were hard at work in. Each provider as the doomed man and I in five minutes ofter the shots were fired. there the legislative and Executive buildings, oper Sclock, Goodel loft his rooms at the enque, an ambushed sharpshorter and I wanted I to get there for some evidence of the of the building by an excited young mur with a nisted in each hand. Through the like baggage in the office of the Commis-

with a score of mountain riflemen at his

from p the-SHAKE

A policeman employed by the Governo then approached me with a pistol in each hand and warned me off the premises. It was pointed out at this moment that the single west window in the office of the Secretary of State was raised about two inches or just enough to permit the insertion of a rifle. But the inside blinds were drawn and from the outside it was impossible to see any our or anything inside. Ten minates after Goebel was shot a mountaineer was seen rouning from the back of the poursed upon him in a moment and there was prom' to of a lynching as he was being dragged off to jail. Three big pistols, a bowle knife and sixty cartridges were found open him, but he protested his innocence and showed that hone of the weapons had been recently fired. His name is Whittaker, and it is not probable that he fired the latal shot. While Whittaker was being capured the Frankfort infantry, fully accouered, with fixed bayonets and coming at a double-quick, dashed up to the Capitol. They took immediate possession and for weive hours no man except the mountaincors already embattled in the Executive building Governor Taylor and his associates was admitted even to the Capitol

On the next day passes were bested to some newspaper men, only to be withdrawn whenever an offensive paragraph against Taylor and his satellites appeared in the favored newspapers, During the days which preceded Goebel's death Governor Taylor enied bimself to all visitors. He would neither expinin nor deprecate the montrous circumstances of Goebel's assassination from the very building in which he sat at the moment the killing was done. Left to themselves, the newspaper men, the Democrats and the doctors, built their own theories of the crime, some supplying motives, others making outlandish guesses as to the identity of the assassin, but all agreeing that the shots came either from the third-story west window of the Executive building or from the first-story west window in the Secretary of State's office on the same side of the structure. Secretary of State Caleb Powers says he was not in Frankfort, but in Louisville, when Goebel was shot. It is therefore supposed that his office was untenanted that day and hour. There are only two doors leading into it. One opens into the Governor's anteroom and the other leads into the corridor of the main hall of the building. Almost within reach of this latter door is another door which leads into the basemen of the building, and from the north side of the building there is an exit from the basement to the rear yard of the Capiol. Granted that the assassin had been secreted in the Secretary of State's office. t would have been easy for him to have all witnesses agree that the shots came cicked off Goebel through the small openfrom the Executive building, and the doctors who attended Goebel Insist that the gar-ments of Goebel will prove conclusively that the shot came from the front. No Coroner's ing of the west window, quickly closed the

inside shutter, escaped into the basement

and emerged at the rear of the house, un-

armed and with the assumed air of an in-

the third-story window, for all the assessing

and understood at least by the mountaining at that particular moment? Why and whether the man who fired the shat is how did they named to get so quickly possibled by death or imprisonment, pro-under name and stand ready at the doors which the plotters and instinators of the graver suspicions have been aroused by belief removed here that deverage Taylor a politician, as a leader, as an organizer, the singular conduct of these in authority, knew of the plot or knews how who first value his produces and associates, he while this populous transely was being entable the shell. Despetate and registers friends made plans new for the years to come, noted. Who brought the mountaineers to may have participated in the crime, and the Frankfort and for what purpose t Who sassin to the Secretary of State's other analysis him, but he is too shrewd a lawyer and then refused all outsiders admission to and too wise a politician to have ever placed did not knew the duties of another, but, the murderer's cover? These are questions that will be asked and perhaps answared at the trial. They have not been answered A singular circumstance of the shooting is one that has not been dwell upon in the him for nearly an hour newspapers. It is the belief to all who

heard the five shots fired when the bell fell that only the first was nimed at lart, and that the other four came from a siffere place and were discharged for the torreduce the impression that a pictol w weapon tised. It cannot be doubted by that killed Goebel could have kill I dark Chine also if he had wished to do be at two men were almost side by side and Chinn is a much larger man three Geshel walk to show where the bullets arrows min in the trees which stand about no tracof any but the one fatal and unerring misshe that struck Goebel down. It is true that from the south side of the buildings or the first shot sounded sharp and clear. shall always believe that the other four were fired at the back of the Executive building, perhaps from the basement entrance, and undoubtedly for the purpose of diverting attention from the enseenced murderer. Since the burial of the victim, a story has been going the rounds that the wound in Goebel's breast was larger than that in his back, and that therefore the builet must have entered his back. In spite of the theories of many surgeons, however,

on the witness stand.

run downstairs and minule with his armed | pended in running down the assassins, will retary of State Finley, who "entertained" ges clates at the two doors on the main not fail to produce mountains of evidence. the mountaineers and openly directed their

visited by "vitnesses" who know, or who think they know "something." That efforts leb Fowers, from whose office the shot may tollowing the shots. Why had they all will be made to incriminate high officials have come. Senator Deboe, the most prom-Why were they all in the Executive build-ing at that particular moment? Why and wiseher rise man who fired the star is Democrate, was in Washington. of their citadel to prevent all investigation are dragged from their high against the party which he led and ruled, of the suspected premises? But other and places to the gallous. I do not share the utter folly of his course in permitting the as said and keen as a schultar. His heuchecked their rifles and issued them at the | mountaineers to overrum the Capital may tenunis did not know his plans, but only critical firstant? Who admirted the asy intrench the projudice piready existing that fact of them which were written or his honor or his safety into the common | working independently under his guidance. councils of a hotele of bandles and us- rance, herself, bly, together in harmony at easiers, as he must have done to have con- time consummation of his plans. He was a nived at the killing of Gorbet. The day, to ticture, a Scientific politician, a chess after the mountainer starrived I taked with Thank an excelle, a master of men. He

elimens. The mean on harm, but some amortalism in the South. Goebel had not here as perceable elimens to protest against the outralisms conduct of the Democrats."

It is enhanced his prestign in the hearts of As he answered, he toughed personally at his followers. He was not romantic, did his nonstache, but looked at me as if he not drick "red liquor," had no race horses, seriously meant what he said. I was noton- no notes chickens, no familiar friends-in taked and notified to hear aim talk of the a word, he was sloof and apart from the demonstration even then cattling around his typical Kentuckian as the world knows doors like a storming party of bucconcers him. To his followers he explained nothas if he remarded it as a commonplace out- tog. For them he did everything. But he

burst of lawful indunation,

I pointed out the fact that every man of
them was armed to the feeth. Even Kenthem was armed to the feeth, eith a plant or two, but these mountaineers had loaded rifles and bere themselves like beach. From Binckwood. combers, rather than like political enthus-

filsta. Taylor. "These mountain men would not think of going anywhere without a rifle, lead pencil is to you, their rifles are to them. Most of them, I suppose, have never been to a town as large as derstand them; they mean only to show their loyalty to their party and to protest peaceably against this robbery. I know nothing of how they came nor who invited Coming from a lawyer who has been in public life for many years, this statem

nocent spectator. The same might have examined the wounds have agreed to say looks incredible in print, and so it sounded been done if the shooting was done from the more about the care vill they appear up- on he spoke it. If he was sincere, he must be the most rullsless of men, the most unwould have had to do would have been to. The appropriation of \$100.000 to be expanding, the most ingenuous. Ex-Secor, rather, testimony. The lawyers in charge movements on the first days of their presof the case, there's brothers, and even thee, was out of town the day Goebel was the detectives here are being continually shut down. So was Secretary of State Ca-

dondrested the politicians of Kentucky by "What do you think of this visitation of the Lak of these qualities which are supmountaineers." I asked him.

"A popular demonstration of outraged have such men in the North, but they are was so serretive in his methods, so selfso absolute, that when or absolute, that when he fell

## JOHN BRIGHT.

from Binckwood.

Mr. Bricht was one of the great figures of its period, as he was of the earlier which is period, as he was of the earlier which is a necessary to add to what I have already by greatly in earnest. I recollect his once ying something or other in the Quaker in, and Patimeraton, in replying, referred him as the "reverend gentleman"; here was no love lost between the two, of Mr. Bright was in carnest about everying. His keemess in voting for the Union as in upholding it in all matters and not arrive in the was a very simple man. I resulted in upholding it in all matters and not arrive in the was a very simple man. I resulted in the control of the was a very simple man. I resulted in the less?" "That's a dean." I have red, the was aware that it wasn't a labop, but he was a man who wouldn't now the differences and distinctions of inquest was held, and the physicians who of Taylor's regarding the mountaineers that kind,

